

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4, and 10-20 are now pending in the application. Claims 5-9 have been canceled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 5-9 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Welsh (U.S. Pat. No. 5,771,949) in view of Liao (5,829,499) and Mankertz (DE 373842). Claims 5-9 and 21 have now been cancelled rendering this rejection moot. Since claims 5-9 and 21 have now been cancelled, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance.

ALLOWED SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 2, 4, and 10-20 are allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (410) 821-1641.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any fees due in the processing of this amendment, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-248.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 7/17/04

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